

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, no new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested. Therefore, claims 1-29 are pending and under consideration. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 21 and 22 are objected to and rewritten into independent form herein.

DOUBLE PATENTING

In the Office Action, claims 1, 8 and 25 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 11 and 18 of copending Application No. 10/691,595 in view of Lim (US Patent No. 5,625,520). Also in the Office Action, claims 1, 8 and 25 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 11 and 18 of copending Application No. 10/691,595 in view of Watanabe (JP 03161911). However, Applicant notes that a terminal disclaimer is not being filed at this time. Applicant further notes that an appropriate terminal disclaimer may be filed at such time as the outstanding issues in the claims are resolved.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Using Independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites, "the temperature-sensitive switch is mounted on an outside of the transformer assembly." Present FIGS. 2A-2C illustrate this feature. As discussed in the present Specification, this arrangement is advantageous as compared to a design in which the temperature sensor is measured at a position which is too far away from the transformer. Present Specification, para. [0011]. Such positioning does not allow for accurate measurement, and overheating of the transformer may result. This arrangement is also advantageous as compared to an air-cooled design, which requires an element to mount the sensor on the transformer. Present Specification, para. [0011]. This increase of the part count complicates the manufacturing process. In contrast, the structure of claim 1 eliminates the need for additional parts while maintaining measurement accuracy.

The Examiner admits that Wallin does not teach the temperature sensitive switch, as claimed, but instead relies upon Lim and Watanabe.

With respect to Lim, this reference teaches a thermostat TH directly disposed on an outer surface of second coil L4 of the transformer T2. Wallin, FIG.2 and col. 4, ln.1-4. Thus, this reference does not teach that the switch is mounted on an outside of the transformer assembly. Instead, the thermostat TH is mounted on the transformer T2 itself. Thus, a bracket 3 is necessary to electrically insulate the thermostat TH from the second coil L4. Wallin, col. 4, ln. 8-11. Thus, this reference suffers from the above-described disadvantage regarding an increased part count.

With respect to Watanabe, this reference teaches a sensor 6d outside of a transformer tank 1. However, the sensor 6d is not on the outside of the transformer tank 1. Instead, this sensor 6d is spaced away from the transformer tank 1. Thus, this reference suffers from the above-described disadvantage regarding inaccurate temperature measurement.

The remaining references do not overcome the above deficiencies in Wallin, Lim and Watanabe.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections, except for the double patenting rejections, have been overcome and/or rendered moot. And further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

Serial No. 10/690,660


If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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